

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 09, 2021 (WEBEX)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ladwig called the Webex virtual meeting to order at 6:00pm. Council members in attendance: Ladwig, Clompus, West, Grover, Davies. City Staff in attendance: City Manager Eli Naffah, City Clerk Gabriel Adams, City Planner, Trevor Parker, City Attorney Russ Gans, City Engineer Rebecca Crow. Approximately (62) attendees were present online at the beginning of the meeting.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation (Calif. Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)): (2 Cases - Disclosure May Jeopardize Service, Gov. Code Section 54956.9(g))
2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation (Calif. Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) (1 Case: City of Trinidad vs. Tsurai Ancestral Society, et. al, Humb. Co. Sup. Court Case No. 180684)

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Ladwig announced that no reportable action was taken by the Council.

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Move discussion item 11 up to third on the agenda.

*Motion (West/Grover) to approve the agenda as amended. **Passed unanimously.***

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *No minutes to approve. 01-26-2021 cc2 minutes will be approved in March.*

VII. COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Grover: Nothing to report.

Clompus: Presented the Water Committee report prepared and included in the meeting packet. Reading from a prepared statement, he explained that asking hard questions is part of his job. Following the brief presentation that relates to the feasibility study agenda item, he recommended that the Water Shortage Committee established during the drought season be dissolved, and that the Council focus on developing a standing Water Committee.

Davies: Nothing to report.

Ladwig: Nothing to report.

West: Nothing to report.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS – *City Manager & Law Enforcement*

City Manager Naffah summarized and highlighted various accomplishments from January that were outlined in the meeting packet.

Davies requested a response on where the City is with the General Plan, Planning Commission goals for 2021, and the status of STR License renewal process.

Ladwig requested Naffah follow up with Pacific Watershed Associates regarding the Luffenholtz Creek flow monitoring contract deliverables.

Resident **Anita Thompson** requested an update on HSCO contract and night-patrols.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

(Three (3) minute limit per Speaker unless Council approves request for extended time.)

Cheryl Kelly – Trinidad

There has been an alarming spike in crime recently. I would like to have a meeting with the Sheriff to discuss tips and methods residents can implement to improve our safety.

Dorothy Cox - Trinidad

Why has the HCSO Contract renewal been put off? Crimes are being committed in broad daylight. Neighborhood Watch programs are a good idea.

Katrine Homan – Trinidad Area

Supervisor Madrone submitted false information on Board of Supervisor letterhead that was included in your public document archive for the January 26 meeting. I request that a note be included, acknowledging the false, misleading information that he submitted.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Staff Activity Report

*Motion (Grover/Davies) to approve the consent agenda as submitted. **Passed unanimously.***

X. DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA ITEMS

1. Consider/Authorize Motion to Reconsider Participation in Feasibility Analysis to Extend HBMWD Service to Trinidad (Action Item—Roll Call Vote)

City Attorney Gans explained that due to the repeated service interruptions experienced during the January 26, 2021, City Council Meeting, various City Council Members have requested that prior action on the proposed waterline extension Feasibility Study proposed by the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) be reconsidered. Pursuant to Trinidad Municipal Code Section 2.04.120, a motion to reconsider any action taken by the Council may be made only during the same session or at a recessed or adjourned session of the Council. The previous meeting was adjourned due to service interruptions and agenda items continued to the next available meeting. Such motion must be made by one of the prevailing side, but may be seconded by any member.

Prior to any substantive reconsideration of the City's participation in the Waterline Extension Feasibility Study with HBMWD, a motion to reconsider must first be heard and approved by a majority of Council members.

Motion (Ladwig/Grover) to reconsider the discussion item regarding participation in Feasibility Analysis to Extend HBMWD Service to Trinidad.

Council comments included:

Davies: I have very serious concerns about this agenda item. The deliberation and decision were very clear, and so was West's vote. If there were concerns about being heard, they should have been addressed before the vote was taken. It also sounds like Ladwig spoke with the majority of the Council about this, and have issues with that as well.

Ladwig: I listened to three Councilmembers concerns about that meeting. That's all. The City Attorney encouraged us to consider postponement, and I should have made that decision.

West: The last thing I wanted to do was bring this back. A number of people told me they too had issues and were not able to speak. I missed a lot of that discussion and think it's fair to let everyone be heard.

Clompus: West had difficulty hearing me, and at 8:06pm while I was speaking, he was calling my phone. The technology issue needs to be recognized no matter which direction the vote goes. The process wasn't equitable.

Public comment included:

Lateal Sabo-Schumpert – Trinidad Area

A pipeline will be detrimental to this area. I don't support it.

Sherri Provolt – Yurok Tribe

That was a bad night for many of us, technologically speaking. I did not get to speak. I tried. I appreciate the Council reopening this discussion.

Elaine Weinreb – Trinidad Area

I don't care what your City Attorney says. This smells like corruption. Are you taking notes from Trump?

Anita Thompson – Trinidad

There were countless technology issues that night. I was not heard either. I'm glad this is being discussed.

Meg Stofsky – Eureka

I'm a member of the NAACP. There is an appearance of post-meeting pressure, causing a reconsideration of the issue. It should have been done right the first time.

Cliff Poulton – Trinidad

I got disconnected twice and didn't find out the vote until the following morning.

Esther Benemen – Trinidad

I agree with Tom Davies. The vote was cast and the discussion is over.

Lucy Kostrezwa – Trinidad Area

I appreciate the redo as the power outage disabled me from participating at all.

Motion (Ladwig/Grover) to reconsider the discussion item regarding participating in the HBMWD feasibility analysis. Passed (4) YES, (1) NO – Davies.

2. Discussion/Decision Regarding Participation in Feasibility Analysis to Extend HBMWD Service to Trinidad (Action Item—Roll Call Vote) (Action Item depends on prior Council Approval of Motion to Reconsider at Agenda Item IX.1)

City Manager Naffah explained in his staff report that as per the letter from General Manager John Friedenbach, HBMWD water is a possible source of water resilience and a viable alternative for the City. As witnessed during this past summer and fall, as well as in past years, the flow of our water source from Luffenholtz Creek can get very low. The City should not rely solely on Luffenholtz Creek, but should have alternative water sources for the future.

The feasibility study will not commit the City to following any particular course of action. The benefit is to provide more information, data and options. It is important for the City to start planning for water security now, because any large infrastructure project, be it a pipeline, rainwater catchment reservoirs, or spring collection, will take time to implement. The City already imports water from outside City limits and outside its own watershed depending on perspective. Trinidad is technically part of the Mad-Redwood Watershed or Hydrologic Unit. Obtaining water from Luffenholtz Creek is not necessarily any more sustainable or environmentally friendly than obtaining water from Mad River. Additional information is needed in order to evaluate the pros and cons of various alternatives.

The concern of rampant development is not realistic, especially for the City of Trinidad. The City is only a square mile and has very few undeveloped parcels. Additionally, a City has control over its own development and can limit future development through zoning and planning. Water security is an equity issue. And the costs of obtaining it affect housing affordability. There are better and more equitable ways to control growth than by not having enough water to go around. Water is an integral part of any city's viability, and it makes sense to responsibly plan and have alternatives for the future.

HBMWD General Manager John Friedenbach, Rebecca Crow of GHD, and City Planner Trever Parker are present to help answer questions. For a feasibility analysis, it is estimated that our staff time and gathering information from past studies that the City commissioned would be the bulk of our cost of the analysis. GHD/Winzler & Kelly had completed several studies in the early 2000's and in 2010 that are relevant and can be utilized for this study.

HBMWD Director John Friedenbach explained that using the historic costs to determine current cost is not valid. The prior studies are useful, but not for cost comparison. There have been concerns about the size of the pipeline and extending it north. The facts are unique in this situation. There are potentially 2 end-use customers. The feasibility study will focus only on these two entities. The pipe would not be sized for future growth, but the State Water Board has the authority to force districts to consolidate if they feel it's necessary. If they step in, none of us will have a choice. The logical point of the City's connection would be either at your treatment facility or at the storage tanks. Concerns about extending the pipeline north seem flawed to me. There have also been concerns about joining a study without knowing the cost. The City can conditionally

approve participation based on Council approval of specific dollar amounts. The Council will have complete control.

Council questions include:

West: If we wanted to only bring a water line across the river but not having it go further than the Rancheria, for the purpose of only connecting when needed in the future, is that something we can consider?

Friedenbach explained that the issue would be that if the Rancheria is the only determined customer, there would be no opportunity to connect due to the limited size of the pipe.

Grover: Participation in a feasibility study does not automatically mean growth or obligate the City to do anything. I believe that this would be a valuable tool to evaluate all options and determine which ones would be best for the City.

Clompus: If the City were to enter into a feasibility study, how long would it take to determine whether it's feasible or not?

Friedenbach noted it could possibly take 3-6 months.

City Engineer Rebecca Crow explained that it would be very useful for the City to understand all options, while also working on planning grants to improve larger water resiliency issues. This seems like a good opportunity to do both. It's my understanding that much of the information needed is data we already have. There are cost savings from work that has been done over the years.

Clompus: If the pipe diameter is sized, designed, and terminated in Trinidad, where would the "excess" water come from that would support the unlimited growth concerns?

Friedenbach reiterated that the pipeline would end south of the City at the treatment plant, and that the pipeline could not be extended beyond that point.

Davies: Years ago there were many lots for sale on Green Diamond land east of Trinidad. If a developer wanted to get a feasibility study from HBMWD to have water delivered to their land, would you entertain it?

Friedenbach explained that there is a process for applications to be reviewed, at the requestors expense, and if constructed, the private interest would pay for the development. **Rebecca Crow** noted that LAFCO, the Water Board, and the County may not support a request for service outside a defined sphere of influence without a very rigorous planning process.

Friedenbach also noted that you can only push so much water through a certain sized pipe. Allowing a private developer to tap into your pipeline would not be allowed as it could have a negative effect on your service.

Davies: At many Planning Commission meetings, the word 'annex' has come up often. If Trinidad started annexing property east and north of the freeway, would that be considered development?

City Planner Trevor Parker explained the current sphere of influence, and compared that with the current demand within the city limits. In terms of long-term viability, the City may want to annex in the future, but not outside the existing sphere of influence. If the City can provide water, that may increase the potential to support annexation.

Davies: It sounds like the feasibility study involves the City taking initiative with the process, not so much an invitation to participate.

Friedenbach confirmed that HBMWD policy does not allow the District to incur costs or request feasibility studies on your behalf. It's completely up to the City Council to direct staff to participate (or not).

City Engineer Rebecca Crow explained that \$5,000 or less could give us a very good sense of where this is headed. You already have a lot of the information on hand.

Clompus: If a feasibility study is done, if the City connected to a specific sized pipe, would there be sufficient amounts of water to share with Westhaven CSD if there was a drought that impacted their system?

Friedenbach noted, again, that the pipe would be sized for Trinidad's needs only.

City Attorney Russ Gans disclosed that his office has an existing relationship with HBMWD, and that should the City pursue a contract with the district, his office would declare a conflict and offer Trinidad alternate conflict legal service for that particular issue.

Public comment included:

Bryce Kenny – Trinidad

Urge the Council to decline the invitation. You're already on record against the Hyatt Hotel. Dave Hankin contributed thoughtful and articulate comments regarding this issue. I second his comments. If we hook up to the Mad River, we would have Luffenholtz Creek too. WE can take care of our water needs by staying local. I hate to see the Council be flip-flopers. Stay the course.

Don Allen – Trinidad Area

The money could be better spent on fixing pipes, tapping springs, and working on Madrone's concepts. Spending money on this creates momentum towards a connection. I don't trust the Council now after flipping on its vote from January 26. There is no promise that the size of the pipe won't increase.

Sherry Woo – HBMWD President

Thanked Director Friedenbach for doing a great job. We respect everyone's interest. Our Board embarked on a water planning process to secure water rights left behind by the closure of the pulp mill. We have several options, one of which was transferring to other local agencies. Sending it out to other areas of the State was our last option.

Dwight Miller – Trinidad

I don't recall that the City ever going on record against the hotel as Mr. Kenny suggested. We said we don't have enough water to support the hotel. If we have another serious drought, we're in trouble. We should investigate all options. We need reliable, clean water. We don't want more growth. The decision to support this study is very important. This is a low-cost study. The bigger discussions can be held later, but we need this data now.

Anita Thompson – Trinidad

What guarantee does Madrone's plan give us? I'm very concerned about the pending water shortage emergency. We are concerned with having a creek as our source. Non-stakeholders from Eureka and other areas will not be affected when our water source runs dry. Just because you believe something doesn't make it fact. No matter how many letters are written, gaining valuable information is very important.

David Hankin – Trinidad Area

I am a scientist. Trinidad is getting into a large project to solve a very small problem. There are very modest issues with your water supply. I sent a letter offering many options that exist before even dreaming about participating in a project like this. Consider the surrounding communities when making this decision. You need to stop this, early.

Marilyn Sterling – Trinidad

Say no to this proposal. Investigate Madrone's proposal. This is a slippery slope, a trojan horse, and should be a last resort only.

Cheryl Kelly – Trinidad

The Planning Commission has put a tremendous amount of time working on drought contingency and water shortage plans, with a focus on sustainability and optimizing our system. We haven't focused as much on water quality. Personally, I believe that knowledge is power and it's prudent to think about the future at a very modest cost. The data doesn't support uncontrolled growth, so I support participating in the feasibility study.

Gail Kenny – Trinidad

We survived several water rationing years. There could be worse droughts ahead, but we should enhance our current system, not consider connecting to Humboldt Bay.

Katrine Homan – Trinidad Area

I support the feasibility study. I read many of the letters sent in. There were a lot of comments loaded with assumptions and fear. None of the letters provided valuable data. That is a terrible foundation to base an informed decision on. The study will provide you with valuable information. Pursue all options presented. Don't exclude data based on fear.

Ken Miller – McKinleyville

It's clear to me if you talk to engineers, they'll sell you a bill of goods. You have the opportunity to preserve a gem. Don't go down that path. The pipeline will provide water for uncontrolled development, as Patty Stearns letter explains. You are stewards of this wonderful town. It's your job to preserve it for everyone. Take the right steps. This isn't about the pipeline. It's about development.

Steve Madrone – Trinidad Area, current 5th District County Supervisor

Appreciate the newcomers to the area. Stakeholders around the Trinidad area include everyone that comes to town to enjoy the area and recreate. Dividing ourselves is a slippery slope. I appreciate comments about fire protection. It doesn't matter what your pipeline is. Storage counts. More storage would help with fire protection. Personnel is important too. Trinidad does not pay a dime for fire service. Trinidad residents surrounding the City pay for your fire and medical service. Your volunteers are older folks. Trinidad has no mutual aid agreement. *(Clerk's Note: Trinidad does pay for emergency fire and medical service and does have a mutual aid agreement with Calfire).*

Madrone continued, explaining that Humboldt Bay Water District has excess water from the pulp mill shut-down and recited various calculations related to pipeline size and carrying capacity of water. There is a real perception there was a serial Brown Act Violation by the Council. I couldn't find any public comment letters submitted online. The public should have access to them. *(Clerk's Note: All correspondence submitted was archived and available to the public on the City website in the Document Library prior to the beginning of the meeting).*

Madrone continued, stating no matter what source the City uses to supply water, storage needs to get improved and leaks need to get fixed. There's a ton of money out there for the City made available through grants. I believe in factual and scientific approaches and believe my proposal would lead to reduced rates for water customers.

Dorothy Cox – Trinidad

I read all the letters, and encourage the City to work with Madrone and consider his suggestions. We need to work with what we have.

Richard Walter – Trinidad Area

The water line in front of my house is a 10" line, which carries much larger volume of water. There are a lot of properties on Westhaven Drive could be hooked up and divided if there's more water. Not a good idea. I don't support it.

Deborah Fitzpatrick - Trinidad

Putting the cart before the horse. We have plenty of data. I don't support this feasibility study.

Sherri Provolt – Yurok Tribal Councilmember

The environmental impacts of the pipeline are missing from this discussion. There will be impacts. Be bold in your action to sustain itself. Be innovative.

Adora King – Trinidad

Don't try it on if you don't want to buy it. I don't support the feasibility study, and am very concerned with possible Brown Act violations.

Gail Sherman – Trinidad Area

We are so grateful to have Madrone in our community and I support his suggestions.

Council comments included:

Clompus: There's no doubt that the City needs to fix its leaky pipes and increase storage. Neither of these increase the supply of water. With the possibility of severe droughts, studies will be required to gather data and gain information. We're going to have to do some kind of study no matter what direction we choose. Because

this is a 10-year plan, we need to look at multiple options. Having more information allows us to make an educated decision. I hope the Council will support gaining more information. A feasibility study with Humboldt Bay Water does not prevent us from fixing leaks, increasing storage, or doing a feasibility study with Madrone's concepts.

Davies: I'm still not convinced this is the right thing to do. I've heard that the size of the water line is questionable. I don't think this is a fear-based decision. Water equals development. Our sphere of influence can be affected by the amount of water we have, and we do have a responsibility to listen to the concerns of the surrounding communities. I don't support this.

City Attorney Russ Gans advised the Council members accused of pre-meeting discussions shed light on the nature of their conversations prior to any decision made tonight.

Ladwig: I brought it up so it would be out in the open. Anytime I speak with Councilmembers, I listen. People have a right to their opinion about their perception, but ask that they consider what really happened.

Grover: I want a comparative analysis done so we have as much information to make the right decision as possible. I can't bring myself to say that I don't want more information. I'm sticking with the same vote I made last time.

West: If we make a mistake with the City's water supply, future residents will be unhappy with us. I still like the idea of having a pipeline delivered to the end-point across the Little River, but not utilized until it's absolutely necessary. However, I will be voting no to support this feasibility study.

Clompus: I live down the street from Grover. We visited, but we did not bring up this topic. The decision was already made.

Ladwig: I still believe Trinidad needs to live within its means and will maintain with my interest to invest in existing infrastructure.

*Motion (Davies/West) to not participate in the feasibility study for bringing water from HBMWD to Trinidad.
Passed by the following vote: (3) YES – Davies, West, Ladwig. (2) NO – Grover, Clompus.*

Moved to item 11, next.

3. Consider Alternative Options for Additional City Water Supply, Feasibility Analysis of Alternatives (Discussion Item)

City Manager Naffah explained that this item was included to either supplement the HBMWD feasibility discussion, or consider and request additional data on alternative solutions to address the water needs of the City. Various sources of water, collection, storage, etc. can be assessed. The Council can give direction on concepts to be explored to determine their feasibility (both practicability and fiscally).

From August through December 2020, the Luffenholtz Creek water flow was so low that the City had to report to State Fish & Wildlife officials. The creek's reliability questionable, and additional sources should be investigated – including a connection with HBMWD while the Rancheria is pursuing it.

Council questions included:

Davies: There is a second part of this discussion is missing, and we decided not to do the feasibility study. I proposed we create a Water Resiliency Committee consisting of 2 Council, 2 Planning Commissioners, Steve Madrone. Create a resolution with tasks, time frames, and legal requirements.

City Manager Naffah explained that he intentionally divided up this discussion in two parts, to be able to include the consultants in part one, and allow them to be excused for the second half.

City Planner Parker explained that the Planning Commission has presented an outline for the water planning process. The City should look at all options at this point, along with grants that will help fund improvements in the short and long term.

West: I suggest including Westhaven CSD on the Committee, committing funding to these studies, and I still think bringing a water line from Humboldt Bay Water across the Little River and stubbing it out is a good idea.

Public comments included:

Madrone: The idea of bringing a tee into the pipeline isn't as easy as it seems. All the information is there, except the updated cost. In your 2008 report, the reasons why the project estimate increase from 2001 to 2008 are explained in detail. Applaud you for doubling down on being a model city, and living within your means like the Native Americans did here for thousands of years. I've spent the last few weeks investigating grants for water systems to increase storage, fix leaks, and enhance water sources. As the City Manager explained, Luffenholtz Creek has an incredible base flow in the late summer due to the deep layer of sand that the water is contained in. Implementing my concepts of tapping springs and developing ground water recharge ponds, the cost to all your customers will be reduced, significantly. I'm willing to help for free. I'm a scientist.

Bryce Kenny – Trinidad

Suggest including a public member, and possibly a Westhaven resident.

Council comments included:

Clompus: Thanked Madrone for sharing his information, but we can't solve the water problems tonight.

*Motion (Clompus/Davies) to authorize the creation of a Water Resiliency Committee, and bring back a Resolution that defines the membership, tasks, and legal requirements of the Committee. **Passed unanimously.***

4. Discussion/Presentation regarding Downtown Pedestrian Improvement Project.

City Engineer Josh Wolf presented information included in the meeting packet.

Wolf explained that on December 13, 2017, the City Council adopted Resolution 2017-19 committing \$30,000 in funds to match the \$550,000 in STIP funds for the Project. The Project is intended to remove accessibility barriers and extend new ADA compliant pedestrian routes along portions of Trinity Street, Patrick's Point Drive, Scenic Drive. The project also includes isolated roadway pavement rehabilitation (if funding allows).

The project's environmental, design, and right-of-way work is now complete. Allocation of the Construction funds in the amount of \$435,000 will be considered by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) at their January 27/28 meeting, this week. Following allocation of the funds, the City will solicit competitive bids for completion of construction. Staff anticipates bringing the project back to Council for authorization to award the construction contract in March, 2021. Construction is anticipated to start in April or May of 2021.

Council questions included:

Davies: Will the lane width on Trinity decrease? I prefer additive bid item #3.

Wolf confirmed that the street width will not change, and justified the need for removal of ADA barriers on Patrick's Point.

No decision was made. Presentation item only. Staff will return in March with bid results.

5. Discussion/Update on Urgency Ordinance STR Moratorium Status

Mayor Ladwig recused himself due to his conflict as an STR owner.

City Manager Naffah explained that this is an opportunity for the Council to revisit this item. Staff believes the moratorium should remain in place to discourage travelers from outside the County to visit town. We do, however, recommend that the City modify the ordinance to allow staycations, or in-county resident stays. In addition, we would like to consider reducing the minimum required nights for 2021 to 30 (from 60).

Council questions included:

Davies: We should not allow letters to be read into the record. That's a bad habit to start. We didn't address minimum nights required per year in the moratorium. That can wait.

Clompus: I reached out to Public Health Officer Ian Hoffman to learn more about the County's situation. I'm on the fence. The Covid Dashboard indicates that the situation has improved. Neither the State or County recommend closure of STR's. We may be overreacting, and I want to make educated decisions.

Grover: I would be in favor of lifting the moratorium if the situation continues to improve, but not yet.

There was no public comment.

*Motion Clompus/Grover to continue the moratorium with the exception that residents of Humboldt County may stay in Trinidad STR's. **Passed (3) Yes, (1) No - Davies. Ladwig recused.***

6. Discussion/Decision regarding GHD Agreement for Local Road Safety Plan Funding

At the regular meeting on October 13, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution 2020-18 authorizing the City Manager and Mayor to sign the funding agreement for CALTRANS funding for a Local Road Safety Plan (LSRP).

Caltrans approved the City's grant application for \$40,000 with a City match of \$4,500 for development of a Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP). The LRSP development process provides a framework for organizing safety partners and other stakeholders to identify, analyze and prioritize roadway safety improvements on local and rural roads. Beginning in April 2022, a Caltrans compliant LRSP will be required to receive Highway Safety Improvement Program funding.

In order to initiate the Project, staff is recommending the Council authorize a contract with City Engineer GHD, Inc. to support all the phases of the project. The \$44,500 in project costs for the City Engineer services and City staff will be reimbursed by \$40,000 in Caltrans LRSP funding and \$4,500 in City general funds. In accordance with Caltrans required consultant selection process, this scope of services is a "task order" under the Contract City Engineer agreement.

Caltrans requires a specific competitive consultant selection process which the City completed in 2019, resulting in the approval of GHD as the City Engineer. Therefore, the City can enter into this task order in compliance with the Caltrans procurement requirements. Staff is recommending the Council authorize Scope of Services with GHD, Inc. for the project, not to exceed \$ 40,000.

Council questions included:

Davies: \$4,500 isn't accounted for in the spending plan. This grant is a requirement for receiving HSIP money, correct? Has the City used these funds for past projects? I hope to look for grants for what we need, not just for what's out there.

Wolf explained that the amount is included as the City's match, covered in staff time. To receive future cycles of funding from HSIP, the LSRP is required. HSIP money has been used to update guardrails on Scenic, crosswalk improvements in town, and striping.

Public comment included:

Bryce Kenny – Trinidad

I have similar concerns as Davies. We have low speed roads and very few fatal or severe accidents so we won't score high. ATP and SB1 might be better opportunities. Will this benefit Trinidad or are we just getting a grant because the money's out there? Expecting another volunteer to sit on a committee might be hard to do.

*Motion (West/Grover) to authorize City Manager to sign a scope of services with GHD, Inc. for development of the Local Roadway Safety Plan. **Passed (4) Yes, (1) No – Davies.***

7. Presentation/Discussion regarding Trails Committee Annual Report

Continued to the March meeting.

8. Discussion/Decision regarding Selection of Mayor.

Continued to the March meeting.

9. Discussion/Decision regarding Council Committee Assignments

Continued to the March meeting.

10. Discussion/Decision regarding Planning Commissioner Appointments.

The Planning Commission has been operating with only 4 commissioners since March 2020. Planning Commissioner terms last 4-years, and appointments are made by the City Council. The vacant seat expires in 2022. The other two seats that expired in December 2020 will be 4-year terms through 2024 (currently held by Commissioners Stockness and Hopkins).

The current commissioners are:

Tom Hopkins	Trinidad area Resident	Term expires December 2020
Diane Stockness	City resident	Term expires December 2020
Cheryl Kelly	City Resident	Term expires December 2022
Richard Johnson	Trinidad area resident	Term expires December 2022
VACANT	must be a City resident	Term expires December 2022

Trinidad Municipal allows the Planning Commission to include up to (2) Commissioners that live outside the city limits if no qualified City residents apply. With no term limits specified in the Trinidad Municipal Code for Planning Commissioners, current Commissioners are welcome to reapply. The City received a letter of interest from View Street resident Aaron Hakenen to fill the vacant seat through 2022.

The City also received letters of interest from current Commissioners Diane Stockness and Tom Hopkins to serve additional 4-year terms expiring December 2024.

Public comment included:

Cheryl Kelly – Trinidad, Planning Commission Chair
Recommend appointing each applicant tonight.

*Motion (Davies/Clompus) to reappoint Stockness and Hopkins, and appoint Hakenen to the Planning Commission. **Passed 4-0. Ladwig absent.***

11. Discussion/Decision to Expand Composition of the Trails Advisory Committee to Include a Representative of the Tsurai Ancestral Society (TAS).

City Manager Naffah explained that a letter was received last week, addressed to the City Attorney from the Tsurai Ancestral Society's legal counsel regarding several Planning Commission agenda related topics, as well as comments about being included on the Trails Committee. After speaking with Attorney Gans, we determined that it would be appropriate to include the Tsurai on this Committee. It's always helpful to have various parties share their ideas and expertise in the planning process.

Attorney Gans noted there is pending litigation with the Tsurai Ancestral Society, but there should be no discussions regarding the litigation. However, this seems to be limited to the Trails Committee discussions, so there doesn't appear to be an issue. The Council has the discretion to include them if desired.

Grover: This is a no-brainer for me. I think they should be included.

Davies: The Trails Committee should be an apolitical group.

Public comment included:

Bryce Kenny – Trinidad

Take a look at the mission and vision statement of the Trails Committee. Preservation, maintenance, and expansion of Trinidad trails is part of the mission. The TAS is on record in favor of eliminating trails from the trail system, which is the exact opposite of the vision statement. They should be respectfully declined, but encouraged to participate in the meeting. Including them would be incredibly inappropriate.

Sherri Provolt – Yurok Tribe

This hits home for Yurok Tribe. Your city is on Yurok Land. How can you not have a Tsurai representative sitting on this committee? They know this land better than you, offering valuable insights as to how we traveled this land. Please consider their recommendation.

Council comments included:

Clompus: I notice that we have a Yurok representative on the Committee. Does the Yurok Tribe represent the TAS interest? Is it more appropriate to have a TAS member than a Yurok Tribal member?

Sherri Provolt explained that each village in the Yurok territory had their own pathways and resources. I would encourage the TAS to speak for themselves. I believe both Tribes should be represented on the Committee.

Motion (Grover/Ladwig) to include a member of the Tsurai Ancestral Society on the Trinidad Trails Committee.
Passed 4-1. Davies – NO.

12. Discussion/Decision regarding Trails Committee Appointments.
Continued to the March meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Davies: Format for creation of committees.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:50pm.

Submitted by:

_____ signed copy on file _____
Gabriel Adams
Trinidad City Clerk

Approved by:

_____ signed copy on file _____
Steve Ladwig
Mayor